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# Substance Abuse Counseling and Education Master's Degree Program Designed for Working Professional [1999]

Nova Southeastern University

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# Substance Abuse Counseling and Education



**MASTER'S  
DEGREE  
PROGRAM**



**Designed for the Working Professional**



# Substance Abuse Counseling and Education Master's Degree Program

Nova Southeastern University (NSU) offers a new, innovative academic program designed for working professionals interested and/or active in the field of substance abuse counseling and education. The home-based master of science degree program recognizes the need of administrators and practitioners to receive advanced training in addiction treatment, prevention, education, and/or management, without interruption of their ongoing work responsibilities.

The Substance Abuse Counseling and Education Master's Degree Program is intended to develop the skills and leadership abilities of addiction-prevention and treatment practitioners who desire to create and maintain high-quality programs. The program provides a rewarding choice for administrators and practitioners whose options in the past were an advanced degree in a related field or an in-service, nondegree program.

## OVERVIEW

NSU's master's program in substance abuse counseling and education provides a specialized curriculum that emphasizes leadership, management, public policy, developmental issues, and human dynamics in a time frame that allows professionals to continue with their current careers.

## FORMING A COHORT

Students may enter the program at specified times (January, June, or September) and form a "cohort." Together, they follow the same schedule and meet at the required summer instruction session. While members of the cohort may reside in geographically distant areas, they have opportunities to interact and share assignments during the Summer Institute.



## **COURSE WORK**

### **Modules**

Course work is arranged in modules—or units of related courses—under the supervision of a specific faculty member. Each cohort has its own guided-study schedule. Each six-credit module is three months long; nine-credit modules are four months long.

### **Practicums**

Field practicums offer students opportunities to apply their newly obtained knowledge and skills. Students may be required to complete one to three semesters of a field practicum. Each practicum includes a seminar and approximately 160 hours of supervised direct practice with individuals, groups, and families.

### **Summer Institutes**

It is customary for first-year students to attend a summer instruction session. This is an intensive learning experience in which students meet and study with other members of their cohort, other cohorts, NSU faculty, and other experts in the field. These valuable experiences also offer opportunities for mentoring or apprentice relationships between faculty members and students, as well as times for faculty evaluation of students.

In the spring, students receive detailed information regarding summer study arrangements. While travel and lodging costs are the responsibility of students, information regarding arrangements may be available through the campus office. If first-year students are unable to attend the required first-year Summer Institute, adjustments will be made to their schedule for the next year's summer studies program. Summer instruction is approximately two weeks in length.



## CURRICULUM

All courses are three credits.

### Course Title

#### Track I

- Psychopharmacology of Licit and Illicit Drugs
- Individual Assessment, Evaluation, and Rehabilitative Strategies in Substance Abuse and Counseling
- Human Growth and Development Theories and Prevention Programming
- Group Theory and Practice
- Family Systems and the Substance Abuse Counselor
- Issues in Clinical Supervision
- Counseling Theories and Practice
- Personality Theory
- Legal, Ethical, and Professional Standards in Substance Abuse and Counseling
- Social and Cultural Issues in Counseling and Prevention Programming
- Psychopathology and Abnormal Psychology
- Career and Lifestyle Assessment in Addictions and Counseling
- Foundations of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Counseling in Community Settings
- Program Evaluations and Research Methods for Counselors
- Management of Medical Treatment of Addictions
- Field Experience I

#### Track II

- Human Sexuality\*
- Field Experience II\*
- Field Experience III\*
- Elective\*

*\*Courses taken only by Track II students*





## **NSU RESOURCES**

During summer instruction, students are exposed to a wide range of NSU support facilities and activities, some of which are available to them year-round as distance learners. These include NSU's comprehensive research library, computer training, peer interaction, student/faculty interaction, and other opportunities for intellectual growth and development associated with campus life.

## **ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS**

This distance-education graduate degree program is designed in a guided-study format. Successful completion of the program depends on the student's ability to work independently. Students are required to complete assignments and projects within the prescribed timelines, and to demonstrate, in writing and verbally, their comprehensive understanding of the curriculum content.

## **PROGRAM COMPLETION**

Course work, practicums, and summer instruction can be completed in as little time as 24 months.

## **ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY**

All accepted applicants are admitted as provisional students. After completion of the first module of courses, with a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average, students are advanced to candidacy for the master's degree.

Students are required to submit three letters of recommendation from colleagues or others who know their work, and an official transcript with a minimum of a 2.5 GPA from a regionally, provincially, or nationally accredited college or university, sent directly to Nova Southeastern University.

Official transcripts of all prior credit earned at other colleges or universities must also be submitted to NSU. Applicants with a GPA of 2.0 to 2.49 are required to go through an interview process. After completion of the first four courses, with a minimum grade of a B in each course, the student will be advanced to candidacy for the master's degree. The Program Admissions Committee evaluates completed files and notifies the student of official admission.

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Contact the Office of Student Financial Assistance, 800-806-3680 or (954) 262-3380 for information regarding eligibility.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Visit the campus office or call toll free 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, 800-986-3223, ext. 8744. In Broward County call (954) 262-8744. Visit our Web site at: [www.fgse.nova.edu/substanceabuse](http://www.fgse.nova.edu/substanceabuse).



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and/or an application for the  
Master's Degree Program in  
Substance Abuse Counseling and Education

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City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_

Work \_\_\_\_\_

Current position \_\_\_\_\_

Highest degree earned \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_

Work \_\_\_\_\_

Current position \_\_\_\_\_

Highest degree earned \_\_\_\_\_

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6/00



**Hanley-Hazelden Center  
at St. Mary's has endorsed  
Nova Southeastern University's  
Master of Science in Substance  
Abuse Counseling and  
Education Program. NSU  
is pleased to recognize  
Hanley-Hazelden Center  
and Florida Alcohol and  
Drug Abuse Association  
as our "partners in education  
improvement efforts."**

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3301 College Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314-7796**

### **About Nova Southeastern University**

With approved academic programs nationwide, NSU is one of the most evaluated universities in the nation and has satisfied the regulations of more than 30 states. With approximately 18,000 students, NSU is the largest independent university in the state of Florida, and one of the 20 largest independent universities in the United States.

### **Accreditation**

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097: Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees.

### **Notice of Nondiscrimination**

Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, nondisqualifying disability, religion or creed, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

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